



An Energy Update



from Nolin RECC

People Helping People
Is your heating system the right size?
Pet-proofing your home

JANUARY 2020

People Helping People

Nolin RECC employees joined others from Kentucky's Touchstone Energy cooperatives right before the holiday season to decorate Ronald McDonald House (RMH) in Louisville. Nolin values its partnership with Ronald McDonald House and is honored to play a role in supporting families who have children in Louisville hospitals.

Families needing to spend time in the house during the holidays were also greeted with cards from Hardin County school children. For the second year, Nolin partnered with Rineyville Elementary School in Rineyville, KY to decorate greeting cards to help lift the spirits of families staying in RMH.

Rineyville Elementary students decorated festive cards to send to Ronald McDonald House families for Christmas.

Nolin RECC was represented by employees Sarah Fellows and Rick Ryan, pictured (right) with his wife, Debbie.



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Jan. 7, 2020

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How big is too big for heating and cooling?

In the dead of winter, it seems like your heating system couldn't be too big. But many homes have units that are bigger than they need—which means they're wasting energy and paying for it.

Most older homes have older heating and air conditioning systems that are way too big. That's because old homes were not built according to today's energy-efficiency standards. Heated air leaked through the walls, windows and attic, and builders compensated for that by installing huge heating units.

Improvements to your home over the years—like new windows and added insulation—have rendered those giant units unnecessary. So if you live in an older home and haven't replaced your heating or air conditioning systems, there's a good chance that they're too big for your house.

Newer homes are built so “tight” that leaks are not as big of a problem.

When the HVAC system is too big, it tends to cycle on too often, which can leave too much humidity in the air and make your house too hot, too cold or too humid.

When you're ready to replace your oversized, out-of-date systems, choose energy-efficient models. Make sure that your new HVAC is correctly “sized” for your lifestyle and the efficiency of the house—not on its age or size. Always insist that your HVAC contractor perform the proper calculations before installing a system. There are four main calculations: Manual J for load, Manual S for sizing and equipment selection, Manual T for air distribution and a Manual D for duct design. Then make sure the contractor follows the calculations.

PAWS OFF!

Keep your pets safe from electrical dangers.

- Make sure all plugs are inserted completely into their wall sockets.
- If your pet seems interested in electrical cords, check the cords frequently for signs of fraying and replace any damaged cords immediately.
- Appliances near sinks and bathtubs should only be plugged into outlets equipped with ground fault circuit interrupter (GFCI) protection in case an electrical appliance is knocked into the water.
- Lamps with exposed bulbs—especially halogens—can reach very high temperatures. Do not allow pets to play near lamps. If the lamp is knocked over, a fire could break out.
- Some pets, especially cats, will often seek out warm, secluded spots in the home. Do not allow your pet to hide or sleep behind your computer or TV equipment where numerous electrical connections are housed.



NIKOLAI TSVETKOV